

BACKGROUNDER NO. 1-0353
JOHN LENNON

MARCH 12, 1976

THIS WEEK NO. 11

(INSERTS IN TAPE LIBRARY)

ANNCR:

"THIS WEEK."

FROM THE VOICE OF AMERICA, THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK
GONE BY...A LOOK AT SOME OF THE EVENTS, A CROSS-SECTION OF THE
IDEAS AND THE VOICES OF SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO MADE NEWS
DURING THE PAST SEVEN DAYS. YOUR NARRATOR IS _____.

NARR:

IT WAS A WEEK WHEN THE WORLD SHARPENED ITS FOCUS ON
THE SHAPE OF EVENTS IN THE UNITED STATES, AND TUNED ITS EAR
TO THE LOUD AND OCCASIONALLY BITTER DEBATES CLOUDING THE
HORIZON AT THE ONSET OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SEASON.
THOSE DEBATES -- OVER THE POLICIES OF, AND LABELS FOR, DETENTE
-- OVER INTELLIGENCE LEAKS AND THE ROLE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS
ABROAD -- AND OVER THE QUALITIES EXPECTED OF THE NEXT PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES -- CONTINUED TO SWELL AT WEEK'S END,
WITH NO SIGN THAT THEY WOULD SOON ABATE.

CRITICS OF THE FORD ADMINISTRATION TOOK STEADY AIM AT
THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED DEFENSE BUDGET OF MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED
THOUSAND MILLION DOLLARS -- CHARGING THAT IT WOULD BE TOO
COSTLY, AND WAS INCONSISTENT WITH THE ADMINISTRATION'S GOAL
OF RELAXING TENSIONS IN THE WORLD. AND, THE POLICY OF DETENTE
ITSELF CAME UNDER INCREASINGLY HEAVY FIRE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S
POLITICAL OPPONENTS, BOTH DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN.

RESPONDING TO THE MOST FREQUENTLY HEARD CRITICISM -- THAT THE UNITED STATES IS GIVING TOO MUCH AWAY TO THE SOVIET UNION IN ITS PURSUIT OF IMPROVED RELATIONS -- PRESIDENT FORD HAD THIS RESPONSE.

TAPE: CUT ONE -- FORD :50

"WE HAVE ALWAYS TAKEN A VERY FIRM POSITION IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. I THINK THE RECORD IS CLEAR. WE HAVE NEGOTIATED HARD ON SALT TWO, WE HAVE TAKEN A VERY STRONG POSITION AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION GOING INTO ANGOLA, ALONG WITH THE CUBANS -- I COULD CITE MANY OTHER INSTANCES OF WHERE WE HAVE BEEN FIRM AND STRONG IN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE (IN OUR POLICY) WHATSOEVER. I HAVE TWO OUTSTANDING MEMBERS OF MY CABINET -- ONE IN DEFENSE, DON RUMSFELD, AND HENRY KISSINGER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND THEY AGREE THAT OUR POLICY SHOULD BE ONE OF STRENGTH IN DEALING WITH THE SOVIET UNION. WE HAVE THE STRENGTH AND I BELIEVE THAT WE'LL BE SUCCESSFUL IN NEGOTIATING IN OUR COUNTRY'S BEST INTERESTS."

NARR:

(OPT)BUT WHILE CAMPAIGNING IN ILLINOIS, MISTER FORD'S CHALLENGER FOR THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY -- FORMER CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN -- MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO HIT HARD AT THE POLICY OF DETENTE.

TAPE: CUT TWO -- REAGAN :24 (FADE IN OPENING APPLAUSE)

(APPLAUSE) "THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT IN MY MIND BUT THAT THE SOVIET UNION WILL NOT STOP TAKING ADVANTAGE OF DETENTE UNTIL IT SEES THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ELECT A NEW PRESIDENT. MISTER FORD HAS SAID THAT IF HE IS ELECTED, HE WILL RETAIN AS SECRETARY OF STATE DOCTOR KISSINGER. IF I AM ELECTED, I WILL APPOINT A NEW SECRETARY OF STATE." (FADE APPLAUSE UNDER NARR)

NARR:

JOINING MISTER REAGAN IN HIS CRITICISM OF DETENTE, DEMOCRATIC SENATOR HENRY JACKSON CHARGED THAT AMERICAN POLICIES TOWARD MOSCOW ARE NOT TOUGH ENOUGH. BUT IN A STINGING AND UNPRECEDENTED ADDRESS IN BOSTON, SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER RESPONDED -- MAKING HIS FIRST PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL CAMPAIGN -- AND CHALLENGED CRITICS OF DETENTE TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING BETTER.

TAPE: CUT THREE -- KISSINGER 1:22

"THOSE WHO CHALLENGE CURRENT POLICIES HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO GO BEYOND CRITICISMS, SLOGANS AND ABUSE, AND SET FORTH IN DETAIL THEIR PREMISES AND ALTERNATIVES. WHAT DO THOSE WHO SPEAK SO GLIBLY ABOUT ONE-WAY STREETS OR PRE-EMPTIVE CONCESSIONS PROPOSE CONCRETELY THAT THIS COUNTRY DO? WHAT PRECISELY HAS BEEN GIVEN UP? WHAT LEVEL OF CONFRONTATION DO THEY SEEK? WHAT THREATS WOULD THEY MAKE? WHAT RISKS WOULD THEY RUN? WHAT PRECISE CHANGES IN OUR DEFENSE POSTURE, WHAT LEVEL OF EXPENDITURE, FOR WHAT PURPOSE, OVER WHAT PERIOD OF TIME DO THEY ADVOCATE? HOW CONCRETELY DO THEY SUGGEST MANAGING THE U-S SOVIET RELATIONSHIP IN AN ERA OF STRATEGIC EQUALITY? IT IS TIME WE HEARD ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS. IN SHORT, WE MUST -- AND WE SHALL -- PURSUE THE TWIN STRANDS OF OUR POLICY TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION: FIRMNESS IN THE FACE OF PRESSURE, AND THE VISION TO WORK TOWARD A BETTER FUTURE."

NARR:

IN A WHITE HOUSE MEETING WITH REPORTERS (END OPT)

PRESIDENT FORD SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES REMAINS SECOND TO NONE IN TERMS OF OVER-ALL MILITARY POWER -- WITH MORE STRATEGIC BOMBERS, WARHEADS AND SHIPPING TONNAGE THAN THE SOVIET UNION. AND HE INDICATED THAT AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES SHOWED CONTINUING UNITED STATES ADVANTAGES IN OTHER AREAS AS WELL.

THE CONTINUING BATTLE OVER A CONGRESSIONAL REPORT ON AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES BROILED UP ONCE AGAIN THIS WEEK, WHEN THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NOW DISBANDED HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE EXCHANGED VERBAL BLOWS WITH A TOP OFFICIAL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. REPRESENTATIVE OTIS PIKE CHARGED THAT C-I-A ATTORNEY MITCHELL ROGOVIN HAD THREATENED TO DESTROY HIM POLITICALLY -- A CHARGE WHICH THE ATTORNEY STRONGLY DENIED, AND WHICH MISTER PIKE LATER ALL BUT RETRACTED. BUT THE CONGRESSMAN'S MAJOR COMPLAINT REMAINED -- THAT HIS COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES REMAINED UNPUBLISHED BECAUSE OF THE COMBINED OPPOSITION OF THE WHITE HOUSE, A MAJORITY

OF CONGRESS AND THE INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES THEMSELVES.

(OPT) ASKED ABOUT THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT AND THE OPPOSITION TO HAVING IT PUBLISHED, CONGRESSMAN PIKE HAD THESE COMMENTS.

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- PIKE -- :52

"THE BASIC THRUST OF OUR REPORT IS NOT SPECTACULAR, IT'S NOT SO MUCH THE SECRET WARS AND THE HORRORS THAT WE TALK ABOUT -- ALTHOUGH WE DO TALK ABOUT THAT. THE REALLY BASIC THRUST OF OUR REPORT IS THEIR NEVER-ENDING, CEASELESS, ONGOING FAILURE, THEIR INABILITY TO PREDICT MAJOR EVENTS THAT GREATLY AFFECT OUR NATION. THAT IS WHAT OUR REPORT IS ABOUT. WE'RE SAYING THAT THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY HAS NOT PERFORMED VERY WELL. THAT IT HASN'T GIVEN FULL VALUE TO THE TAX-PAYERS. THAT THIS IS A BAD SITUATION FOR AMERICA TO BE IN. AND OBVIOUSLY, THE PEOPLE WHO ARE DOING THE PERFORMING DON'T LIKE TO HAVE THAT PUBLISHED." (END OPT)

NARR:

BUT IF THAT REPORT REMAINED UNPUBLISHED, MORE AND MORE WAS BEING PRINTED AND BROADCAST AROUND THE WORLD ABOUT THE PAYMENTS OF CASH BY UNITED STATES CORPORATIONS TO OFFICIALS OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. NEARLY ONE HUNDRED AMERICAN BUSINESSES WERE UNDER INVESTIGATION BY WEEK'S END -- AND ABROAD, INVESTIGATIONS WERE UNDERWAY AS WELL. IN THE NETHERLANDS, A COMMISSION CONTINUED ITS REVIEW OF CHARGES THAT PRINCE BERNHARD HAD ACCEPTED MORE THAN ONE MILLION DOLLARS FROM LOCKHEED, AND A TOP AIR FORCE GENERAL WAS FORCED TO RESIGN IN TURKEY. IN JAPAN, OPPOSITION PARTIES BOYCOTTED THE DIET, OR PARLIAMENT, PREVENTING ACTION ON OTHER MATTERS PENDING A RESOLUTION OF WHAT IS BEING CALLED

THE LOCKHEED QUESTION. JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER TAKEO MIKI HAD WRITTEN TO PRESIDENT FORD, ASKING FOR INFORMATION SURROUNDING LAST MONTH'S REVELATION THAT LOCKHEED CORPORATION HAD PAID TWO MILLION DOLLARS IN BRIBES TO HIGH OFFICIALS IN TOKYO -- IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE THE SALE OF LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT TO JAPAN. AT WEEK'S END MISTER FORD SENT A REPLY TO JAPAN'S PRIME MINISTER PLEDGING SUPPORT FOR THE JAPANESE INVESTIGATION, AS WELL AS CONTINUING EFFORTS BY AMERICAN INVESTIGATORS TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SCANDAL. THE PRESIDENT DECLINED, HOWEVER, TO REVEAL ANY NAMES OF JAPANESE OFFICIALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ACTS OF BRIBERY -- AND THE TOKYO GOVERNMENT AGREED TO KEEP THE INVESTIGATION SECRET, UNTIL ALL OF THE FACTS ARE KNOWN.

(OPT) THE WIDESPREAD COVERAGE OF THE SCANDAL PROMPTED FOREIGN OBSERVERS TO WONDER ALOUD WHY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD PERMIT SUCH AN INVESTIGATION TO GAIN SUCH WIDE PUBLICITY. THOSE SAME OBSERVERS NOTED THAT SUCH PAYMENTS HAVE LONG BEEN A PART OF INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN TRADE AND COMMERCE -- AND THAT MONEY UNDER THE TABLE HAS NOT BEEN UNKNOWN IN AMERICAN POLITICAL AND BUSINESS DEALINGS. A CHIEF U-S INVESTIGATOR LOOKING INTO CORPORATE BRIBERY CHARGES -- STANLEY SPORKEN -- AGREED, BUT SAID THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WOULD NO LONGER TOLERATE SUCH ACTIVITY.

TAPE: CUT FIVE -- SPORKEN -- :31

"WE WERE TOLD THAT MANY OF THE THINGS THAT WENT ON IN OUR OWN GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST FEW YEARS WERE ACCEPTABLE BECAUSE THEY HAD GONE ON IN PAST GOVERNMENTS. BUT WE FOUND OUT THAT WE JUST CAN'T ACCEPT THAT STANDARD. WE'RE ALWAYS MAKING PROGRESS IN THIS WORLD, AND WE MUST CONTINUE TO MAKE PROGRESS. THINGS THAT WERE ACCEPTABLE TEN OR FIFTEEN YEARS AGO IN OUR OWN COUNTRY ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE. IF YOU RECALL THERE WERE MANY PARTS OF OUR OWN COUNTRY WHERE

OFFICIALS WERE BEING BRIBED DAY IN AND DAY OUT. AND NOW, EVERYBODY SAYS THAT'S NOT ACCEPTABLE." (END OPT)

-0-

NARR:

DESPITE THE TURMOIL OVER HIS DEFENSE BUDGET, HIS POLICIES WITH MOSCOW AND A VARIETY OF OTHER PROBLEMS, PRESIDENT FORD THIS WEEK FOUND REASON TO BE HAPPY. UNCERTAIN AT THE OUTSET OF HIS FIRST NATIONAL POLITICAL CAMPAIGN THREE WEEKS AGO, MISTER FORD PICKED UP NEW CONFIDENCE AS HE WON HIS FOURTH CONSECUTIVE PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION -- THIS TIME, IN FLORIDA, A MAJOR STATE WHERE POLLSTERS HAD EARLIER PREDICTED THAT CHALLENGER RONALD REAGAN WOULD WIN BY AS MUCH AS A TWO-TO-ONE MARGIN. ASKED FOR HIS REACTION, PRESIDENT FORD PRAISED THOSE WHO HAD CAMPAIGNED ON HIS BEHALF.

TAPE: CUT SIX -- FORD -- :21

"WELL NATURALLY I WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH THE WONDERFUL JOB THAT ALL OF OUR PEOPLE DID IN FLORIDA. THEY JUST DID A TREMENDOUS JOB. I'M DELIGHTED WITH THE EFFORT THAT WAS MADE, BUT ALSO WITH THE DEEP CONVICTION THAT OUR PEOPLE HAD, AND I'M JUST OVERJOYED WITH THE RESULTS."

NARR:

ON THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY TICKET, FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR JIMMY CARTER WON BY A COMFORTABLE MARGIN OVER ALABAMA GOVERNOR GEORGE WALLACE -- WHO HAD BEEN FAVORED TO WIN IN EARLY OPINION POLLS. MISTER CARTER SAID THE BALLOTING BY FLORIDA VOTERS SHOWED THAT THE SOUTH WAS BEGINNING TO TURN AWAY FROM THE POLICIES OF MISTER WALLACE -- LONG REGARDED AS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF RACIAL SEGREGATION -- AND THAT HE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE TO DO WELL AGAINST THE ALABAMA GOVERNOR.

TAPE: (OPT) CUT SEVEN -- CARTER -- :24

"WALLACE IS GOING TO MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO REDEEM HIMSELF NEXT WEEK. I DON'T HAVE ANY FEAR OF GOVERNOR WALLACE, I'M NOT RUNNING AN ANTI-WALLACE CAMPAIGN. BUT I THINK HE WILL CONTINUE ON AS A CANDIDATE, PLAYING THE SAME ROLE HE HAS PLAYED IN THE LAST THIRTEEN YEARS -- NOT AS A POTENTIAL VICTOR, BUT AS SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS, TO BE IN THE CENTER OF POLITICAL ATTENTION, AND TO MODIFY THE VIEWS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY." (END OPT)

NARR:

DESPITE HIS DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF A FELLOW SOUTHERNER, GOVERNOR WALLACE SAID THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A CANDIDATE -- AND THAT HE WOULD FIGHT TO WIN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S NOMINATION, AND THE PRESIDENCY. HE ALSO MAINTAINED THAT MANY OTHER CANDIDATES WERE WINNING PUBLIC SUPPORT BECAUSE THEY HAD BEGUN TO EXPRESS HIS LONG-HELD VIEWS ON MAJOR POLICY ISSUES.

TAPE: (OPT) CUT EIGHT -- WALLACE -- :20

"EVERY CANDIDATE, DEMOCRAT AND REPUBLICAN, IS SAYING NOW ABOUT WHAT I SAID IN '68 AND '72, AND THAT IN ITSELF IS A VICTORY OF SORTS, BECAUSE I WANT THE COUNTRY TO GET BACK IN THE MIDDLE AND REPRESENT THE GREAT MASS OF MIDDLE-CLASS CITIZENRY INSTEAD OF THE EXOTIC FAR LEFT. BUT I'M STILL A CANDIDATE FOR THE NOMINATION." (END OPT)

NARR:

FINISHING THIRD IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S FLORIDA PRIMARY WAS SENATOR HENRY JACKSON, WINNER OF THE PREVIOUS WEEK'S BALLOTING IN MASSACHUSETTS. AS THE WEEK CAME TO A CLOSE OBSERVERS GENERALLY AGREED THAT FOR THE REPUBLICANS, PRESIDENT FORD HAD BECOME STRONGER AND MISTER REAGAN WEAKER -- BUT THAT IN THE RACE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION, THERE WAS STILL NO CLEAR LEADER.

(OPT) WHEN RIVAL DEMOCRATS BEGAN VYING FOR THEIR PARTY'S PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT -- DESPITE WHATEVER DIFFERENCES THEY MIGHT HAVE HAD -- ALL OF THEM INTENDED TO MAKE THE STATE OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY A MAJOR CAMPAIGN ISSUE. THE NATION, THEY SAID, WAS SUFFERING FROM THE EFFECTS OF ITS WORST RECESSION IN DECADES, AND UNEMPLOYMENT WAS AT ITS HIGHEST LEVEL IN YEARS.

HOWEVER, RECENT MAJOR ECONOMIC INDICATORS HAVE SHOWED CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT IN SUCH AREAS AS INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY, CONSTRUCTION AND WHOLESALE PRICES. AND, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE -- WHILE STILL HIGH -- HAS BEEN DROPPING AT A SLOW BUT STEADY PACE.

THEN THIS WEEK, ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY USED INDICATORS OF THE NATION'S ECONOMIC ACTIVITY -- THE DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE OF MAJOR STOCKS -- ROSE BEYOND THE ONE THOUSAND MARK FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE JANUARY, NINETEEN SEVENTY-THREE. A TELEVISION NEWSMAN TALKED TO A STOCK BROKER ON WALL STREET ABOUT THE TREND TOWARD ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

TAPE: CUT NINE -- HAGER BROKER -- :08

"WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE GENERAL MOOD ON THE STREET NOW? (ANSWER) ECSTATIC. I HOPE IT LASTS, AND I THINK IT'S GOING TO." (END OPT)

NARR:

IN PARIS THIS WEEK, THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCED THAT PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVED ECONOMIC GROWTH IN WESTERN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ARE BETTER NOW THAN THEY WERE THREE MONTHS AGO. DESPITE THE CHEERY FORECAST, HOWEVER, SEVERAL MAJOR WORLD CURRENCIES EXPERIENCED CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK -- WITH THE

BRITISH POUND SUFFERING ITS WORST BEATING ON INTERNATIONAL MONEY MARKETS IN YEARS. THE POUND -- LONG CONSIDERED A PILLAR OF ECONOMIC STRENGTH -- DROPPED TO WELL BELOW TWO DOLLARS IN VALUE, AND SERVED TO SYMBOLIZE BRITAIN'S GENERAL ECONOMIC DECLINE.

THE LABOR GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER HAROLD WILSON HAD RECOGNIZED THAT DECLINE AND IN RECENT WEEKS HAD FORMULATED A PLAN TO COMBAT IT -- PROPOSING DRASTIC CUTS IN SOCIAL SERVICES IN AN EFFORT TO SLOW GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND CURB THE NATION'S HIGH RATE OF INFLATION. BUT ON WEDNESDAY MISTER WILSON'S FRAGILE COALITION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS FELL APART, WITH LIBERAL PARTY MEMBERS ABSTAINING FROM A VOTE ON THE COST-CUTTING MEASURE -- AND IN SO DOING, CONTRIBUTING TO ITS DEFEAT. A BITTER MISTER WILSON FUMED THAT THE LIBERALS HAD JOINED OPPOSITION CONSERVATIVES IN WHAT HE CALLED AN "UNHOLY ALLIANCE" -- AND HE PUT THE FUTURE OF HIS GOVERNMENT ON THE LINE WITH A CALL FOR A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. THE VOTE WAS TAKEN THURSDAY, AND THE LIBERALS REJOINED THE FOLD -- KEEPING MISTER WILSON IN OFFICE, BUT LEAVING OPEN THE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF HIS COALITION. BY-ELECTIONS AT WEEK'S END INDICATED THAT THE STATE OF BRITAIN'S ECONOMY HAD FURTHER ERODED POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE LABOR GOVERNMENT, AND IT WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER MISTER WILSON WOULD BE ABLE TO GAIN NEEDED LIBERAL SUPPORT FOR HIS SOLUTIONS TO THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

IF BRITAIN'S GOVERNMENT MANAGED TO STAY IN POWER THIS WEEK, THE GOVERNMENT IN LEBANON APPEARED TO SUFFER ITS WORST CRISIS IN NEARLY TWENTY YEARS. DURING THE WEEK, CONTINUING DEFECTIONS BY LEBANESE ARMY UNITS -- MADE UP MOSTLY OF

MOSLEMS UNHAPPY OVER THE TERMS OF THE SYRIAN-BACKED REFORMS -- PROMPTED PREMIER RASHID KARAMI TO THREATEN HIS RESIGNATION. MISTER KARAMI, UNABLE TO FORM A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY, SAID HE WAS IN DESPAIR OVER HIS SEEMING INABILITY TO BRING OPPOSING FACTIONS TOGETHER -- AND HE CALLED LEBANON A SINKING SHIP. WITHIN HOURS, IT APPEARED THAT THE SHIP'S CREW HAD MUTINIED -- AS THE COMMANDER OF THE BEIRUT MILITARY GARRISON, BRIGADIER GENERAL ABDEL AZIZ AL-AHDAB, BRANDISHING A PISTOL IN ONE HAND, MADE A SUDDEN APPEARANCE ON NATIONAL TELEVISION.

TAPE: CUT NINE -- AHDAB -- (UP BRIEFLY AND UNDER NARR)

NARR:

GENERAL AHDAB, INSTALLING HIMSELF AS MILITARY GOVERNOR, DEMANDED THE RESIGNATION WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS OF PREMIER KARAMI -- AND OF PRESIDENT SULEIMAN FRANJIEH, WHOSE LEADERSHIP HAD BEEN CALLED INTO QUESTION DURING THE BLOODY YEAR-LONG CIVIL WAR. SAYING HE HAD NO INTEREST IN POWER FOR HIMSELF, HE DEMANDED THAT PARLIAMENT ELECT A NEW PRESIDENT WITHIN ONE WEEK, PROMISING TO STEP DOWN AT THAT TIME. BUT PRESIDENT FRANJIEH RESISTED THE MOVE TO OUST HIM -- AND BY THE WEEKEND THE FUTURE OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT WAS UNCERTAIN. IT WAS APPARENT, HOWEVER, THAT LEBANON ITSELF -- SHATTERED AND BLOODIED BY WAR, ITS ECONOMIC FABRIC TORN AND ITS POPULATION DIVIDED INTO HOSTILE CAMPS -- HAD SUFFERED A SEVERE BLOW, PROMPTING OBSERVERS TO WONDER WHETHER OR NOT THE NATION WOULD BE ABLE TO RECOVER.

IF THE FUTURE APPEARED BLEAK FOR LEBANON, IT LOOKED JUST AS BAD FOR WHITE-RULED RHODESIA -- WHERE A TOP OFFICIAL ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK THAT GUERRILLA ACTIVITY BY BLACK NATIONALISTS BASED IN MOZAMBIQUE HAD WIDENED, COVERING THE LENGTH OF THE EIGHT HUNDRED MILE BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. CUT OFF FROM THE SEA WHEN MOZAMBIQUE CLOSED ITS BORDER THE WEEK BEFORE, THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH PROMISED TO CONTINUE ITS FIGHT AGAINST THE GUERRILLA ACTIVITY -- BUT SAID ALSO THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE TALKS WITH AFRICAN NATIONALIST LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO ON CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM. NOTING THE INCREASING TENSION IN THE AREA, BRITAIN -- WHICH STILL CONSIDERS RHODESIA TO BE ITS COLONY -- CALLED FOR A SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE WHITE MINORITY GOVERNMENT AND RHODESIA'S BLACK MAJORITY. (OPT) THE BRITISH VIEW WAS PRESENTED BY SIR IVOR RICHARD, LONDON'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

TAPE: CUT TEN -- RICHARD -- :39

"THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT THERE ARE SOME TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY THOUSAND WHITES AND THERE ARE SOME SIX MILLION BLACKS IN THIS ONE COUNTRY. IT IS LUDICROUS FOR THE WHITES IN RHODESIA TO EXPECT THAT THEY CAN MAINTAIN PERMANENT MINORITY RULE, OR INDEED, EVEN MINORITY RULE INTO THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE. I THINK WE ARE NOW AT A STAGE WHERE THEY HAVE TO DECIDE, AND IT'S A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION, I ACCEPT THAT, WHETHER THEY ARE PREPARED NOW TO SEE THEIR COUNTRY ATTACKED, WHETHER THEY ARE PREPARED TO SEE WAR ACTUALLY COME TO RHODESIA ITSELF, OR WHETHER THEY ARE NOW PREPARED TO SETTLE." (END OPT)

NARR:

AS THE WEEK CAME TO A CLOSE, THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL SCHEDULED CLOSED-DOOR MEETINGS ON THE RHODESIAN QUESTION FOR MONDAY -- AND CONSIDERED A MOZAMBIQUE REQUEST FOR A FULL COUNCIL MEETING ON THE ISSUE LATER IN THE WEEK.

ANNCR:

(OPT) AND THOSE ARE SOME OF THE TOP STORIES THAT MADE
HEADLINES THIS WEEK. YOUR NARRATOR WAS -----
JOIN US AGAIN NEXT -----, WHEN THE VOICE OF AMERICA
TAKES A LOOK AT THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS ON "THIS WEEK." (END OPT)

-0-

EC/PBM/RCS/PY/CAK